

First Light

A weekly e-newsletter from
First United Methodist


September 27, 2024

Human Trafficking Seminar-October 23rd

The Congregational Care Committee will be hosting an evening seminar aimed at educating the local public about the hidden, but very real problem of human trafficking. The event is presented by Fierce Love 4 Good, an organization that seeks to educate the public and provide needed supplies for those rescued from human trafficking. This event is being hosted by First UMC as a resource to our local community who will be invited to join us. The seminar will take place in our Celebration Center on October 23rd beginning at 6:30 pm. All are invited to attend and learn more about the need and how we might offer the hope of Christ to the victims of this horrible situation. To learn more about this organization, check out their website [here](#).



Special Blood Drive to Honor a Friend-Oct. 22nd

 **American Red Cross**

George Frey was a good friend and running partner of Gary Laidacker's. After serving 24 years in the US Navy and achieving the rank of Master Chief Petty Officer, George leveraged his naval career to earn a bachelor's degree from Southern Illinois University and a master's degree from Troy University. George pursued and valued a post-military career as a government contractor prior to fully retiring. He worked on projects that provided continued support to the US Navy and an opportunity to collaborate with several former shipmates and sailors. He is the definition of a true patriot! Unfortunately, George was diagnosed with cancer and, during this time, saw first hand the importance of blood donation. Sadly, after a long battle with cancer, he finished his race on Earth. To honor his memory, Lisa Laidacker has organized a special blood drive. Please consider donating blood to The American Red Cross on October 22nd 1:00-6:00 pm in the Celebration Center. To register, call 1-800 RED CROSS or visit redcrossblood.org and enter "George Frye" to schedule an appointment.

Reminders:

-Terri Lynn Nut Sale

Orders are due by October 1st.

-Family Promise Sept. 29-Oct. 5

Sign up at the upstairs Connection Table to provide and deliver a meal one evening during the week. A list of current residents and food allergies is available on the Connection Table.

-Mission & Outreach Rummage Sale

The Mission & Outreach Rummage Sale will be on October 12th from 7:30 am-1:00 pm. Helpers are needed for set up, running, and tear down including boxing up the leftovers for local charities. **Sign up on either Connection Table to help.** Donations for the sale will be accepted beginning Oct. 9th. A **Dumpster** will be in the lower parking lot from October 10-18 for church members to dispose of larger items. Please no tires, tube style tvs or anything containing freon.

-”Sing Christmas” Cantata Rehearsals

begin Sunday, October 6th at 2:00 pm in the Celebration Center. Normal rehearsals will be on Thursday evenings 7:15-8:15.

-World Communion Sunday—Oct. 6th

We will have one combined worship service at 10:00 am to worship and celebrate Communion with brother's and sisters in Christ around the world. No JAM or nursery. Special offering goes to support scholarships around the world.

-Trunk-or-Treat—Oct. 27th

Trunk-or-Treat for the community on October 27th 2:00-4:00 in the Celebration Center. Register your trunk using the QR code or call the church office.



September 29, 2024



Sermon: “Wake Up and Remember”

Scriptures: Genesis 3:1-19
1 Corinthians 10:31
Isaiah 43:19-21
1 Peter 2:9



Mission Stitchers will meet on October 5th at 9:00 am in the Celebration Center. They will work on bowl buddies, fidget buster and quilt blocks. Anyone interested in learning to sew is welcome to attend. They will provide sewing machines and supplies.

Volunteers needed to pick turkey in preparation for the October 2nd Good 'N Plenty Meal. If you can help, meet in the kitchen at 1:30 on Sunday, September 29th.



FYI: Needs in the Community

From time to time, the Mission and Outreach Team will publicize a need they have heard about in the local community. This is not necessarily a need we will work on as a church, but rather something you can do on your own if you feel led to do so. Currently, Dwell Orphan Care is in need of children's clothing. To find out more, go to their [website here](#). Scroll down to the box titled "Clothing Donations Guidelines" for instructions on donating.



**Oct. 5th
9:00 am**

**Outside
Work Day**



Helpers needed to pull weeds and spruce up the outside of the church building.

Good 'N Plenty Meal
Wednesday, October 2nd
4:00-5:30 Curb Side Take Out
5:00-6:30 Dine In



**Roast turkey, gravy, stuffing,
mashed potatoes, vegetable,
cranberry sauce
& dessert**
\$12/meal (suggested donation)
No child sizes

No Call Ahead Orders Please

We are a welcoming family of Christ followers, living lives of generosity, as we seek to be a blessing to others.

Traditional Worship: 8:15 & 10:45 Contemporary Worship 9:30 JAM Children's Church 9:30

Let's Celebrate!

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 10/1 Adria Eck, Robin Bardo, Travis McNett
- 10/2 Nancy Lyons
- 10/3 Betsy Mothersbaugh, Bonnie Rebuck
- 10/5 Mary Root, Kay Wagner, Randy Welch
- 10/7 Brooke Hansen, Alexa & Madison Karschner
- 10/9 Murray Hanford, Sadie Ritter
- 10/10 Tom Brittain, Jamie Hanford
- 10/13 Leah Rabb, Celia Roca
- 10/15 Gary Edwards, Craig Miller
- 10/17 Katie Nichols, Stacie Nierzwicki
- 10/18 Ryan Riddell
- 10/20 Mark Beyer, Don Johnson, Barry Shuck
- 10/22 Heather McCaslin
- 10/23 Brooke Reynolds
- 10/24 Jo Langer, John Smay
- 10/25 Amy Myers, Abby Potts
- 10/26 Linda Geise
- 10/28 Mike Wood



Bob Dewitt recently celebrated his 90th birthday with a surprise party hosted by his daughter in the Living Water Café.

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 10/1 Nicole and Don Johnson
- 10/2 Jayme (Winters) and Ryan McClung
- 10/5 Ann and Wayne Dougherty, Steph and Jan Mostowy
- 10/6 Valerie and Dan Kelley
- 10/7 Donna and Leon McCaslin
- 10/11 Juli and Dan Mingle
- 10/12 Barb and Mitch Morgan
- 10/15 Michelle and Chip Cowher, Dani and Gordie Eck
- 10/17 Jo Ann and Dave Swartz
- 10/21 Shelley and Bob Webb



Celebrating the births of:

Charlotte Piper Foreman, daughter of Kelsey and Madison Foreman, granddaughter of Paula and Marty McCabe and great-granddaughter of Loretta Ryder

&

Judah Michael Adrian, son of Eve and Tristan Adrian, and grandson of Deb and Mike Steransky